

Waterbury Democrat

Established 1831

Published Every Evening Except Sundays and Holidays by

THE WATERBURY DEMOCRAT, INC.
Democrat Building, Waterbury, Conn.Subscription Rates, Payable in Advance
One Year \$9.00 One Month 75c
Six Months \$4.50 One Week 15c

Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation

The Democrat will not return manuscript sent in for publication unless accompanied by postage. No attention paid anonymous communications.

Dial 4-2121 All Departments
Dial 4-2121 All Departments

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1938

A Thought for Today

And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood.—Numbers 35:27.

By taking revenge, a man is but even with his enemy; but in passing over it, he is superior.—Bacon.

Should Be No Fight

There seems to be a desire to start another inter-departmental rumble in the state government now that things have quieted along the Merritt Parkway. This time it's the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment station and a private citizen offshoot of the State Board of Fisheries and Game that are sparring for openings. The fight was projected by a heated charge from the Advisory Council of the Fisheries and Game Board that mosquito and malaria control projects in Connecticut were gradually destroying natural habitats of wildfowl and fish.

The charge is not a new one nor is it confined to Connecticut. And, regardless of the situation here in this state, it has some body to it. There is and has been a tendency on the part of various government agencies—state and federal—to dry up swamp areas, fill in marshlands on the general theory that to do so means to provide more protection for public health and safety. The lives of members of any community that are endangered by the presence in their midst of an unsanitary swamp or marsh should receive primary consideration. No one disputes this fact.

In our own particular case the sportsmen, who make up the Advisory Council of the State Board of Fisheries and Game, may be carried away by the fact that all over this nation natural resources are rapidly being depleted. Conservationists are making a strenuous fight to save our forests, our streams, our ponds, and even our marshlands from further despoliation. On this score the enthusiasm of the local group can be excused. On the other hand it needs more than a mere protest or charge to prove that the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station has been over-ambitious in its projects for mosquito-control.

Good work has been done in our neighboring state on just such projects as this by a uniting of forces, such as those which apparently are ready to war against each other here in Connecticut. Natural wildfowl habitats were saved and at the same time breeding places of mosquitoes were eliminated. The same thing can easily be accomplished here in Connecticut and we have no good reason yet to believe that it isn't being done.

Going to Pieces

The recent news from Czechoslovakia is discouraging to American friends of that country. It seems to be going the way of Austria. The former cohesion against the Nazi minority belonging to the German Sudeten party has disappeared. The Czechs and Slovaks, who together have formed the backbone of this synthetic nation, are pulling apart, with the Slovakian People's Party demanding autonomy for their race and voting to boycott the government's national council. The German Christian Socialists have withdrawn from the government coalition. The different groups are more and more emphasizing their "ethnic differences," when the only way to preserve the security of any of them is to emphasize their common interests.

As a result of this cracking up, the German Nazis, with only about one-fifth of the population, and still a small minority in the national parliament, nevertheless have the largest racial group in that body and are rapidly growing in power. This kind of division means national suicide. It is unlikely that the big liberal powers of Europe will intervene to save the fine little republic if the racial groups believing in democracy will not work together for their own salvation.

Nazi conspiracies, very likely, are at the bottom of this suicidal division, but the Nazis cannot be wholly to blame. The quarreling factions will realize their folly when the Hitler terror comes to Prague.

Philatelic Delights

Seventy thousand pieces of mail were sent to Baltimore by stamp collectors for the recent opening of air mail service between the United States and Bermuda by Pan-American Airways. The post office workers carefully stamped each item with a "special reddish cachet, showing an Easter lily on each side of a map of Bermuda marked by the shadow of an airplane."

It sounds attractive, artistic, and even sentimental, but the ignorant non-collec-

tor is puzzled by the fact that the senders of all that mail were not seeking quick communication with friends in Bermuda. They wanted only additions to their collections. And they didn't care about the beauty of the stamp. Or did they? Maybe the fellow who hasn't the "bug" is just an envious old critic.

War on Children

Ten months ago 3,800 children were sent from the Basque country to England to be sheltered and fed until conditions were better in their home land or until their scattered families could be found. The Basque Children's Committee since then has sent back 1,800 of these unfortunate youngsters. They have rejoined their parents, though not many of them are in their former homes.

There are still 2,000 homesick Basque children who will remain in England indefinitely because their parents either are in prison, are refugees "in the worst bombed areas of Spain," or cannot be traced at all. It has been argued by Insurgent sympathizers that all those children should have been returned as soon as Franco's forces captured Bilbao. The committee answers that such children, on arrival in Spain, "are immediately placed in reformatories for re-education" according to Insurgent ideas. It considers that fate worse than a prolonged stay in England.

What the children themselves think, probably no one knows. It is their tragedy to suffer from quarrels they did not start and a war they cannot understand, to be torn from their families and made to feel the crushing pangs of terror, loneliness and insecurity. That is war.

In his yearly report to the motion picture industry Will Hays points out progress in the right direction in many films of the year. He states that self-regulation in the movie industry was a great laboratory experiment of self-government in industry. Through self-regulation Mr. Hays says that such gains have been noted as moral and artistic standards; high advertising standards that properly exploit a picture; the creation of a general and consistent educational campaign; and a successful system in the employer-employee relations of the industry. He likewise discusses criticism outside the industry and cooperation of educational, social and religious agencies. As to the last named outside factors the fact that such criticism and censorship as are offered by such groups as the Motion Picture Bureau of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae are welcomed was brought home to local picture-goers this winter when the chairman of this bureau pointed out the cooperation given the moving picture industry by such groups.

New Hampshire is not too small a state, yet it has just one morning newspaper and that The Manchester Union, which yesterday observed its 75th anniversary. In celebration of the event the paper put out a 112 page diamond jubilee edition. This is the largest edition ever printed by the publishing company which owns it. We have not seen the edition, but read that it contains not only the paper's history, but also stories of the state's industrial, financial, cultural and social life.

Lily Pons, who is adept at vocal gymnastics and leaps, is planning a leap of a different sort. This will be, if and when it comes to pass, her marriage to Andre Kostelanetz, radio orchestra conductor, and as the diminutive star says, it will take place "veree soon".

Next week will be cleanup week in Waterbury. That has been announced officially. Back yards, front yards, gardens, dumps and streets are to be given a good spring overhauling.

The crowds viewing the Japanese Cherry trees in Washington has been unprecedented. Perhaps an important reason for this is the large number of people idle at the present time.

Selected Poem

THE OLD WOODEN CRADLE

(Cherished in Memory)

(By Herbert Durrell Smart, Nash N. H., 1938, in the Boston Post)

Back to memory comes the old wooden cradle,
With its old-time "to-and-fro" rocking thrill;
Though quaint and now quite out of fashion,
For sentiment's sake it is treasured still.
In fancy there, a baby slumbers,
And the home-hearth seems to brighter glow,
Round the scene of my reveries, and hallow
The old wooden cradle of long ago.

The angels must have been watching over
The baby sleeping there, long ago,
While a mother rocked the old wooden cradle
And crooned a lullaby, soft and low.
In that home at the end of the trail that's winding,
I would be contented and happy, I know,
If awaiting me there I should be finding
The old wooden cradle of long ago.

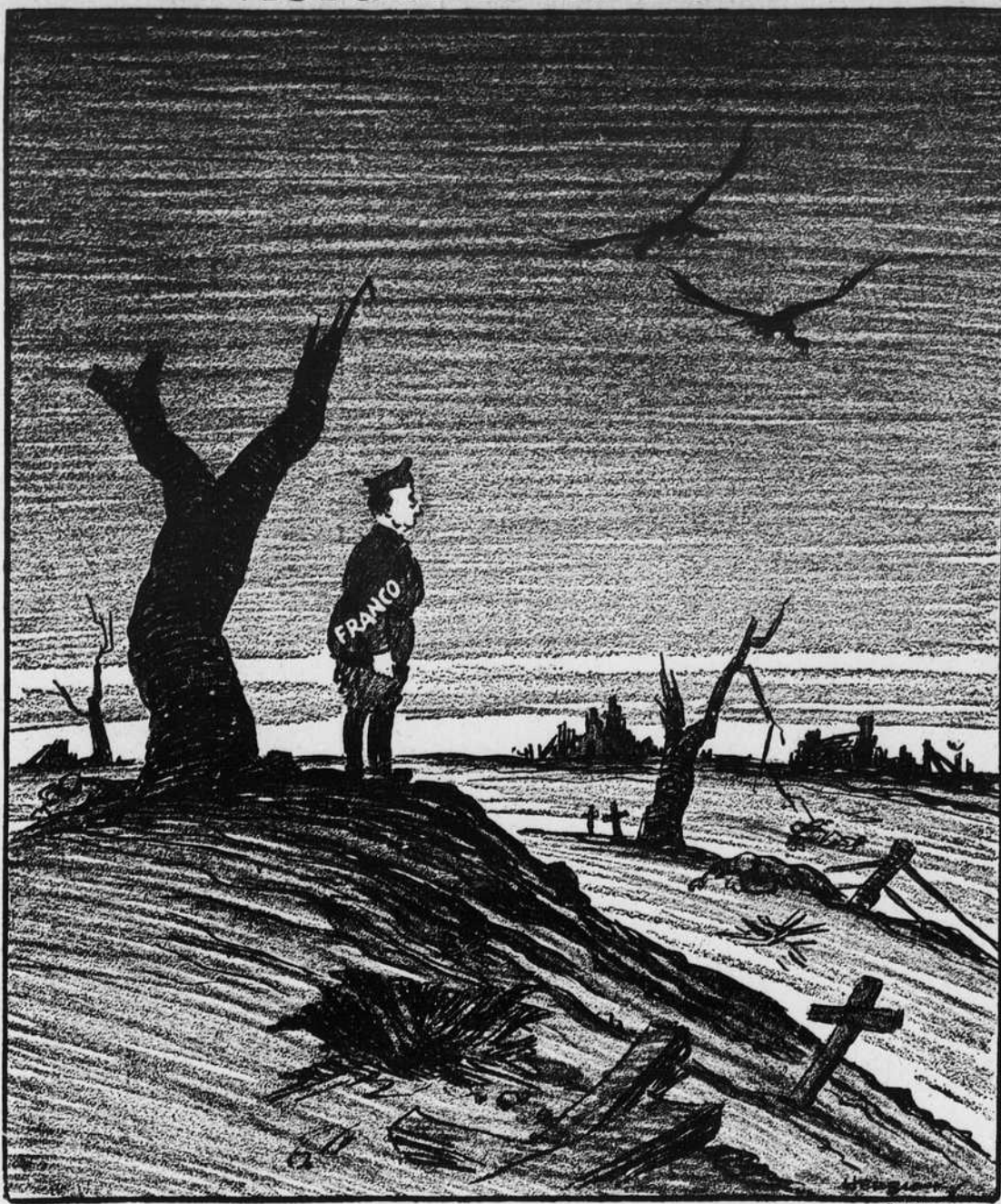
When the sun's last rays come through the window,
And shadows cross the dim old floor,
And in the evening twilight gather
In the corner of the room once more,
In fancy then, with the clock tick-tocking,
I hear a lullaby, soft and low;
And a phantom hand I see there rocking
The old wooden cradle of long ago.

Daily Almanac

Sun rises 5:40 a. m.; sets 6:14 p. m.
All vehicles must be lighted thirty minutes after sunset.

Tomorrow the moon reaches its new moon phase, the second time it has done this in March. Five phases in one month are not unusual, still they are not so unusual that scientists pause to study the phenomenon. This change occurs shortly after noon and is apt to indicate rainy weather, although the change comes so close to 2 o'clock that it may swing to the other extreme and bring us a 7-day pleasant period.

"VICTORY IS IN SIGHT"



Low Cost Housing

Project Proposed Similar to One Just Started in Syracuse, N. Y.—Would Improve Conditions, but Will Not Improve City's Appearance.

HARTFORD TIMES.

Hartford feels that it has no slums, in the sense in which they exist in many great cities. It has housing conditions in certain areas which are woefully inadequate, are conducive to bad social conditions and crime, as well as detrimental to public health.

Mayor Spellacy has expressed a willingness, under certain conditions, to appoint a housing authority, to undertake the correction of these conditions. The proposal differs materially from a low cost housing project such as there has been talk about in Hartford recently and should be examined in the light of that difference.

A similar project is about to be launched in Syracuse, N. Y. The government has undertaken to loan

\$3,930,000, the city putting up \$437,000.

There will be a twenty-five acre housing development for 700 families. Two story group house buildings will be erected, with occasional single family and two family buildings, and a sprinkling of three-story apartment buildings. They will be designed for families not paying more than \$16 a month rental.

These houses will be about as ugly as could be imagined. They will be practically rectangular steel or wood framed boxes, with brick or concrete facings. All materials and fittings will be reduced to the fewest possible specifications. The houses will resemble the Dutchman's ships, built all in one piece and cut off to the desired length.

Though there will be playgrounds and other recreational facilities such a community would resemble the mill tenement villages of another day, with construction modernized.

Candor compels the admission that in spite of lack of beauty such living quarters probably would represent a vast improvement over those now enjoyed by many Hartford families. Surroundings would be more healthful and social conditions probably would be improved.

When Hartford thinks it does not want the buildings described, it might appropriately think of what it has now.

A rental of \$16 probably does not represent the average paid by Hartford's low income group. It must represent more nearly to top.

Moreover, a great proportion of persons occupying such homes are on relief. If we had real slum clearance the new homes would not be filled with those able to meet the modest rental from their own resources. The taxpayers would have to pay much of the rent as well as provide the building.

If, however, the city is determined to go into housing, such a project, with rentals not going above \$16 and often less, is what is needed if relief from worst conditions is to be afforded.

Press Comment

IN THE NAME OF MERCY

(Christian Science Monitor)

Kentucky, whose forests and streams have furnished furs for eastern markets for 250 years, has enacted an anti-trap law—a progressive step which other states might well emulate. Among the few which have such laws are Massachusetts, New York, Wisconsin, Georgia, and South Carolina.

The tortures to which an animal is subjected after being taken in the cruel steel-jawed trap are alone sufficient to condemn the device. But practically unimpeded and indiscriminate trapping has been allowed almost to wipe out the fur-bearers in some localities, and one consequence has been a multiplication of insects and rodents.

The anti-trap law, if made universal, might prevent the extermination of some valuable species. A dozen types of trap have been devised to take animals without injury or cruelty, but these are usually more expensive and are not everywhere available.

Trapping for the market might well be legally curbed in the United States. Meanwhile, signs point to the elimination of the practice. Fox, mink, raccoon, and skunk now are reared as domestic animals and killed humanely for their fur, and even beaver and muskrat are protected on public and private preserves. The popular silver fox is very largely a product of the farm.

In Jamaica, natives run 18 miles uphill, carrying fresh fish to the markets. The runner who reaches market first gets the best price for his fish.

Questions and Answers

By Frederick M. Kerby

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Enclose a three-cent stamp for reply when addressing any question of fact or information to the Waterbury Democrat's Service Bureau at Washington. Legal and medical advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken. Be sure all mail is addressed to the WATERBURY DEMOCRAT'S SERVICE BUREAU, 1013 Thirteenth Street, Washington, D. C.

THE EDITOR

Q. How many persons are receiving old-age assistance under the federal aid provisions for state old-age pensions, and what percentage of the population of the United States over 65 years of age do they constitute?

A. In December, 1937, there were 1,562,144 recipients of old-age assistance in 47 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii, combined.

TODAY'S COMMON ERROR
Chamois is pronounced either sham'-e or sham'-oi; not sham'-wah.

Q. How many persons are receiving old-age assistance under the federal aid provisions for state old-age pensions, and what percentage of the population of the United States over 65 years of age do they constitute?

A. 39.37.

Q. What was the name of the company that excavated the Panama Canal?

A. The Panama Canal was constructed by the United States Government, which employed the engineers and workmen for the job, and did not let out any of the excavating or other work on contract to independent companies.

Q. In what periodical was "The Open Door," a poem by Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, published?

A. In "Good Housekeeping," October, 1929; and in "The Literary Digest," October 19, 1929.

Q. What is the origin and meaning of the surname Pelletier?

A. Is French, derived from a locality in the department of Haute-Alpes. It refers to the fur-trade (pelleterie), common at this gap in the Alps.

Q. Are lifeboats on passenger ships equipped with motors?

A. A certain percentage of lifeboats on passenger vessels of nearly all countries are required to be so equipped.

If you want a copy of our booklet "Etiquette for Everbody" write to Waterbury Democrat's Washington Bureau, 1913 Thirteenth Street, Washington, D. C. Enclose 10 cents in postage.

Test Your Knowledge

Can you answer seven of these test questions? Turn to last page for the answers.

1. Who won the 1937 world pocket billiard title?
2. What name is given to the region of land and water surrounding the North Pole?
3. Name the capital of Afghanistan.
4. When was "The Star Spangled Banner" officially designated as the national anthem of the U. S.?
5. What is the name for plants whose life is more than two years?
6. In which state is Hot Springs National Park?
7. What body of water separates the island of Madagascar from Africa?
8. What is the scheduled opening date for the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1939?
9. What is an astrolabe?
10. Who was the first President of the United States?



FDR's Fighting Words in Georgia Make Advisors Feel Better; His Failure to Act On Recession Mystery to Everyone; "Too Cautious to Fight" the General Slant on His Refusal to Spend Again

WASHINGTON, November 30. — The President's tough-talking speech at Gainesville, Georgia, grated harshly on the ears of certain elements, but to his close advisers it came like the voices of singing angels.

They had awaited the address with bated breath as an indication of the peerless leader's frame of mind. What they specifically wanted to know was whether he was going to continue taking his base on balls, or was going to step to the plate and hit his way out of the current six months coma of inaction.

So the fighting words at Gainesville pepped them up enormously, and they are now hopeful that he will bestir himself energetically regarding the recession.

For a while the President is pondering the economic problem under the balm of his Warm Springs retreat. But daily it becomes clearer that unless the President acts with the old-time Roosevelt vigor, he may spend his last two years in office as bitterly disliked as the ill-fated Herbert Hoover.

People Expect Miracles

The most important question asked by American business men today is: "Why doesn't Roosevelt do something to end the recession?"

Having won for himself the reputation of "miracle man," and having been given greater power than any other peace-time President, Roosevelt is paying the penalty.

People remember the decisive way in which he acted during his first term. They have been especially reminded of this of late by reading his own description of what he did in 1933 during the bank holiday and unemployment crisis.

Now they are wondering at the reason for the inactivity. And those who are doing the wondering, strangely enough, include some of the closest friends around him. They are just as mystified as his most caustic critics.

They are mystified, and even more discouraged. One of them, a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission and a staunch believer in stock market regulation, remarked:

"When the Ship of State is listing, what difference does it make if the passengers in the first class cabin cheat at cards?"

Roosevelt Mystery

Various explanations are put forward by members of the Inner Circle for Roosevelt's six-months inactivity. Most of them are pure speculation, but they include:

HE is preoccupied with the sinister international situation.

HE wanted Congress to push him into spending more relief and emergency money.

HE wanted business men also to push him.

HE didn't want to begin a new spending program himself because it would be an admission that the 1933 recovery was built on insecure foundation.

HE didn't believe that the recession was going to be serious, thought it would right itself with a little breathing spell to business.

With the exception of the first, there is probably some truth in all of these reasons.

There are, in addition, two other factors more complicated to explain but important none the less. One is the fact that this country has been operating on a spending program for years—though we haven't always known it—and Roosevelt is now trying to balance the budget.

The World War days were nothing but a huge spending spree, spending money which Europe was supposed to pay back, but never will. Then after the war came the era of lending money to South America and Europe, money which was largely spent for goods right here in this country, and which never will be repaid.

Right on the heels of this came the Coolidge Bull Market, when people spent the paper margins—which later vanished into thin air. Then came Roosevelt's spending program plus the bonus, which shot the prosperity index to the skies.

And now, in a few short

months, the country is down to almost no spending.

NOTE—Henry Morgenthau, chief opponent of spending, now seems to have been won over to the idea.

Sudden Caution

The other important factor is Roosevelt's sudden cautionness. He is like the men who work on New York skyscrapers. When one of them is killed by a fall, the rule on all high building construction in that work stops for the rest of the day.

This caution is not motivated by fear of carping on the part of the surviving workers. Just the opposite—the men become so careful that they lose their sense of balance, their sangfroid, their confidence, and accidents result.

Roosevelt also has become cautious—both tired and cautious. Now he looks carefully before he takes each step. Theoretically this is what he should do, were it not for the fact that Roosevelt normally follows his hunches, not the rule of reason. He has rare political instinct, but today he's not acting on it. He's being super-careful that it's painful. And it may be that having been up to the high places and shown the awful chasm of political defeat awaiting anyone who lets the country down into another lasting depression, the president has become too cautious to fight.

This was the way Inner Circle minds were running until the Gainesville speech. Now they are feeling decidedly better. They are hoping that when the President returns to the capital, he will be the old, fighting Roosevelt.

AT ANY RATE, THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WILL TELL THE STORY. THEY WILL DETERMINE WHETHER GAINESVILLE WAS MERELY A PUFF, OR THE OPENING SALVO OF A NEW OFFENSIVE.

(Copyright, 1938, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

A Book a Day

Periodically the Book-a-Day column is conducted by Olive Roberts Barton, noted child training authority. Today Mrs. Barton reviews the latest books suitable for children.

BY OLIVE ROBERTS BARTON

From the day of the first fairy-tale, fantasy and wizardry have held wide space in the heart of the 8-to-11-year-old, as well as his elders. "The Hobbit," by J. R. R. Tolkien (Houghton, Mifflin; \$2.50), satisfies full requirements in this class.

Mr. Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit, "bigger than a Lilliputian but smaller than a dwarf," goes on a 250-page pilgrimage with the dwarf king, Thorin, and his followers, to retrieve a treasure stolen by a dragon. For half a year they battle against such sinister creatures as trolls, wicked goblins, dwarf-hungry spiders and elves, on their way to the Lonely Mountain.

The Hobbit is humorous and original; and packed from cover to cover with hair-raising thrills and magic.

News to little "Nicodemus" lovers is the release of another of Inez Hogan's small books about the little colored boy and his sprightly companion, Petunia. In "Nicodemus and His New Shoes" (Dutton; \$1), the boy, the girl, the new shoes and bawdy sister get all mixed up in a mud puddle.

An exceptionally lovely book is "The King's Daughters," by Lady Cynthia Asquith (Dutton; \$2), an intimate account of the two English princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. This new study of their life, character, and their tastes—which parallel those designed for the attention of older children and adults. Yet the favorite games, books, dolls, Princess Elizabeth's lessons and Princess Margaret's charming friendship with the late Sir James Barrie, will bear retelling to children of any age.

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed

